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NO CHANGE IN CLASS. 11  
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NSC BRIEFING

20 January 1958

MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS (OUTLINE)

25X1

- I. Baghdad Pact Council meeting in Ankara likely to find members with some special problems on their minds.
  - A. Turkish leaders concerned by:
    1. General political atmosphere; increasing sensitivity to any opposition. Abortive military conspiracy.
    2. Greatly overextended economy.
  - B. Iranians, especially Shah, still questioning value of Pact unless it produces kind and quantity of US aid they seek.
  - C. Pakistan having relatively quiet period internally; PM Noon has proposed strengthening Baghdad Pact with "perpetual peace" treaty and longer-range defense planning.
  - D. Iraq, only Arab member of Pact, still looking for ways to use it to increase influence in Arab States.
    1. Weakness of present cabinet <sup>not</sup> ~~will~~ likely to affect Iraqi delegation, which to be headed by "strong man" Nuri Said.
- II. Ankara meeting, especially top-level US attendance, has again been object assaults by Egyptian and Syrian propaganda. Syrian Communists have played it as possible new threat comparable to "Turkish menace,"
  - A. But Nasir and Syrians plagued at moment by other serious problems.
    1. Egyptian-Syrian union talk and possible moves.
    2. Egyptian economic plight - foreign exchange shortage and negotiations with UK.
    3. They are seeking to find ways to use disenchanted West in order balance growth of Soviet influence.

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- III. Yemen is newest example extension Sov economic and military aid formula.
- A. Soviet ambassador has confirmed 35 million dollar economic aid offer.
  - B. Yemenis still seeking people to operate their new Soviet bloc military equipment.
  - C. Crown Prince Badr, main booster of Soviet aid, will soon return from Moscow and Peiping visits.

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